

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 097120  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 TRSE-00 /042 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:DGBROWN:SJP  
APPROVED BY EA/ROC:HJFELDMAN  
HA/HR:LMORIN (DRAFT)  
-----036112 151846Z /73

R 150240Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097120

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, TW

SUBJECT: TAIWAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SITUATION

1. THREE TAIWANESE EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY LEADER AND  
LEGISLATOR KUO YU-HSIN, PROF. PENG MING-MIN, AND PUBLICIST  
WANG NENG-HSIANG) CALLED AT DEPT. (EA/ROC) APRIL 13 TO  
EXPRESS THEIR CONCERN ABOUT REPORTS FROM TAIWAN THAT GROC  
WOULD ARREST TAIWAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LEADERS WITHIN A  
FEW DAYS. THE ONLY FACTOR THEY CITED AS SUPPORTING  
THESE RUMORS WAS THE RECENT CENTRAL DAILY NEWS EDITORIAL  
WHICH CRITICIZED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MENTIONING CHURCH  
SECRETARY GENERAL KAO AND TAINAN SEMINARY LEADER CHENG  
(PHONETIC) BY NAME.

2. DEPTOFF. SAID THAT USG WAS AWARE OF REPORTS AND THAT  
EMBASSY WAS FOLLOWING SITUATION CLOSELY. WE NOTED AND  
PENG ACKNOWLEDGED THAT DURING PAST YEAR GROC HAD REACTED  
WITH RESTRAINT TO CHURCH'S DECLARATION AND HAD ALLOWED  
MORE OPEN DISCUSSION OF POLITICALLY SENSITIVE ISSUES ON  
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TAIWAN. WE STATED THAT GROC WAS AWARE OF USG CONCERN FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS.

3. DEPTOFF. SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD ROC EMBASSY POLITICAL  
OFFICER THAT GROUP HAD CALLED TO EXPRESS ITS FEARS AND  
THAT DEPT. HAD RESPONDED BY CITING THE RESTRAINT THE  
GROC HAD DISPLAYED IN HANDLING SITUATION THUS FAR.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, ARRESTS, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, PLACES OF WORSHIP  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE097120  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DGBROWN:SJP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014